

Ellen Ackerman, Jim Ackerman, Steve Alexander, Terri Allaire, Adalberto Araiza, Larry Bahill, Bill Benedict, Dan Cavanagh, Ed Cerutti, Mike Crawford, Mimi Finch, Bruce Greenberg, Doug Kliman, Robert Nichols, Chris Palmenberg, Bob Parson, Larry Putman, Joe Sciabarra, Burney Starks, Bob Strain, Tim Timmins, Paul Weishaupt, and Jessica Woelbling.

I commend them for their commitment to this important nominating process and for their help in identifying the United States military leaders of the future.

HONORING THE REVEREND
BONITA GRUBBS FOR HER OUT-
STANDING SERVICE TO THE
COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join family, friends, colleagues, and the New Haven community in extending recognizing my good friend, the Reverend Bonita Grubbs, as we gather to celebrate her 20th Anniversary as the Executive Director of Christian Community Action. It has been through her outstanding leadership and vision that Christian Community Action has grown into an invaluable resource for those most in need.

Christian Community Action is a non-profit ecumenical social service organization whose mission includes providing emergency food, housing, and support to New Haven's poor while encouraging them to attain self-sufficiency. Christian Community Action is also a vocal advocate for the most vulnerable of our citizens—working to change the systems that perpetuate poverty and injustice. For twenty of its thirty year history, Bonita has been at the helm of this institution where she has led the way in expanding its programs and services. She has a unique combination of compassion, generosity, and vision which has enabled her to ensure that this agency can continue to meet the changing needs of the poor.

More than just her professional contributions have made Bonita one of our most respected community leaders. She has served on the Boards of the Greater New Haven Community Loan Fund, the International Festival of Arts and currently serves on the Boards of the Hospital of Saint Raphael, Connecticut Voices for Children, the Connecticut Housing Coalition, Quinnipiac Bank and Trust, and the Connecticut Center for School Change. She has been a member of the Judicial Review Council for the State of Connecticut as well as president of the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness. Ordained to the Christian Ministry within the American Baptist Church in November of 1987, Bonita has also served as the Interim Pastor of the Christian Baptist Church in Hamden, Connecticut. Bonita understands the importance of being involved in one's community and has made an extraordinary effort to enrich the lives of those less fortunate.

Her work with Christian Community Action as well her myriad of volunteer efforts have changed the face of the New Haven community and brought much needed attention to the

needs of the poor. Bonita knows that the prosperity of a community lies in the willingness of its members to give back and she has done much to strengthen the bonds of our community.

I must also take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks to Bonita for her many years of special friendship. She has been a source of inspiration to me and so many others. I am honored to take this moment to stand and recognize the Reverend Bonita Grubbs for her 20 years of dedicated service to Christian Community Action and her outstanding contributions. Every community should be so fortunate as to have such an accomplished and devoted advocate, mentor, and friend.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION
EXTENSION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, although am disappointed that White House opposition will prevent the House-passed \$63 billion stimulus package from becoming law this year, we have at least reached bipartisan agreement on this seven week extension of unemployment benefits for our neighbors still looking for work in this struggling economy.

Today's unemployment report was not good: 159,000 jobs lost in September—the worst job loss in five years, on top of 600,000 jobs already lost in 2008. The Federal Unemployment Trust Fund currently has more than enough reserves to cover the cost of this extension, and nearly 800,000 workers will exhaust their benefits if this legislation isn't enacted into law. For their benefit, and the benefit of our economy, I urge my colleagues' support and yield back the balance of my time.

HONORING THOSE WHO FOUGHT
THE ANGEL ISLAND FIRE

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the heroic firefighters who, with bravery and dedication, halted the fire that threatened to devastate Angel Island State Park, one of our Nation's unparalleled treasures, located in San Francisco Bay near Tiburon in Marin County, California.

Heroic firefighters across America brave flames and smoke to save lives and protect homes and property. Everyday these men and women risk their safety on our behalf.

On Sunday, October 12, 2008 flames threatened to swallow Angel Island, a renowned landmark that boasts a history dating back to the Civil War. In 1863, Angel Island was home to Camp Reynolds, which guarded the bay during the Civil War. The island later served as an immigration station, dubbed "The Ellis Island of the West". During the Cold War, the Nike missile site was located on Angel Island.

Many of these structures are truly windows into our past. In particular, I have worked with my colleagues and with concerned citizens such as the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation to restore the immigration station. The stories of peoples' lives are literally written into its walls and have much to tell us about our own history and humanity.

When fire raged at Angel Island, threatening to devastate our Nation's jewel, 275 firefighters united forces to stop the fire and ultimately protect 120 historic buildings and 360 acres from destruction.

Days after the orange and red flames dissipated into a cloud of smoke, a crew of 100 dedicated firefighters remained on the island to complete their duties.

Successfully battling a major wildland fire is never the act of one person alone. Marin's fire agencies have an effective mutual aid agreement which brought skilled personnel and resources from agencies throughout the County with a shared objective—saving the Island's historical buildings and minimizing resource damage. Angel Island Park personnel were an instrumental part of the command structure and, with the help of the U.S. Coast Guard, quickly evacuated overnight campers to a safe location. As always, the air attack and support provided by crews and personnel from CAL FIRE gave firefighters the upper hand to ultimately bring the fire under control. This was an amazing example of inter-agency cooperation that was the key to a successful outcome.

Madam Speaker, I thank these leaders and their crews who saved a tremendous part of our history. They and their many colleagues across the country are truly our heroes. Thanks to their tireless and timely response to a looming threat, Angel Island, a beacon of history and environmental beauty, can continue to enrich the lives of visitors from around the world.

IN HONOR OF JOHANNA OROZCO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Johanna Orozco. Her courage, personal strength and concern for others in the wake of unimaginable personal tragedy nearly two years ago at the young age of fifteen, has lifted her into the rare and inspiring platform as a champion of women's rights. Her activism has inspired people of all ages throughout our Greater Cleveland community, especially young women who are vulnerable to domestic violence.

Ms. Orozco did not only survive the vicious attack by her ex-boyfriend, she has reached out as an activist, speaking openly on high school and college campuses. She selflessly shares her own painful experience in order to educate and protect others from unhealthy relationships and domestic violence. Despite her near death, she battled to recover, rising a stronger and wiser individual. Through every painful phase of her rehabilitation and surgeries, Ms. Orozco reflects grace and dignity.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Johanna Orozco, who has transformed her personal